



Welcome Letter and Information

The Taos Academy Governing Council, Administration, and TA Faculty would like to welcome all new and returning students and their families back to school! We are looking forward to an amazing year with exciting additions to our student body, faculty, curriculum, programming and facility. Thank you for joining us as we continue to grow and innovate!

THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO!

Please find the attached 2021-2022 calendar and supply list. Also, check out our new website with this information as well as much more at www.taosacademy.org. Below is an overview of the month for you to plan, and more information will follow next week!

Please feel free to contact Amy Lucero if you have any questions or need further help at 575-751-3109 or alucero@taosacademy.org

Family Orientation:

Taos Academy will be hosting our **New Family Orientation** on Friday, August 13th from 9am - 1pm. All new families are asked to attend - please bring your student as well! If you are unable to make it, please contact Elizabeth LeBlanc at eleblanc@taosacademy.org to schedule a time to come in and receive your TA login information and mini-orientation.



School Start Dates and Times

HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE (includes College Link):

SCHOOL STARTS THE WEEK OF:

Monday, August 16th – Thursday, August 19th

School starts at 8am and ends at 4pm

Monday 8/16 - School starts at 8am and concludes at 4pm for **High School ONLY** this week. Students will participate in orientation activities and begin coursework. This includes all College Link students.

Tuesday 8/17 - School starts at 8am and concludes at 4pm for **High School ONLY** this week. Students will participate in orientation activities and begin coursework. This includes all College Link students.

Wednesday 8/18 - **This is a TENTATIVE schedule and subject to change. Schedule will be confirmed in the August newsletter.**

- **Grade 9** will be participating in the Rocky Mountain Youth Corp Challenge Course from 8 am - 3:30 pm at Taos Academy Campus. **BRING WATER & LUNCH**
- **Grade 10** will be at Taos Academy for advising and course set-up.
- **Grade 11** will attend Taos Academy campus from 8-11am, then will meet at 12:30pm at the Rio Grande Visitor's Center in Pilar for lunch and rafting on the Rio Grande. **Parents and/or students will be responsible for transportation and LUNCH.**
- **Grade 12** will attend Taos Academy from 8-4 noon to get set up in classes

Thursday 8/19

- **Grade 9** will be at Taos Academy for advising and course set-up.
- **Grade 10** will be participating in the Rocky Mountain Youth Corp Challenge Course (8am - 3:30pm at Taos Academy Campus) **BRING WATER & LUNCH**
- **Grade 11** - will attend Taos Academy from 8-4 noon to get set up in classes
- **Grade 12** - attend Taos Academy campus from 8 am - 11 am. They will meet at 12:30pm at the Rio Grande Visitor's Center in Pilar for lunch and rafting on the Rio Grande. **Parents and/or students will be responsible for transportation and LUNCH**

All Taos Academy **College Link and Dual Credit students** are required to attend school the week of 8/16. Eligible Taos Academy students will complete the college course registration for the University of New Mexico - Taos (UNM). All College Link and Dual Credit students have a mandatory Orientation, time and date TBA.

Monday 8/26 – Thursday 8/30 – High School students ONLY will **NOT** be attending TA campus this week. However, they are required to stay current with their pacing calendar and to begin their digital coursework. Students may and are encouraged to attend the Student Success Lab at Taos Academy Monday through Thursday from 8-12, if needed to make a strong start to the year!

MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHEDULE:
SCHOOL STARTS THE WEEK OF:
Monday, August 23rd – Friday, August 27th
School starts at 8am and ends at 4pm

Monday 8/23 - School starts at 8am and concludes at 4pm for **Middle School Students ONLY** this week. Students will participate in orientation activities and begin coursework.

Tuesday 8/24 - School starts at 8am and concludes at 4pm for **Middle School Students ONLY** this week. Students will participate in orientation activities and begin coursework.

Wednesday and Thursday, 8/25 & 8/26 - Location and logistics TBA for our middle school outdoor education days. The proposed schedule is as follows and will be confirmed in the August newsletter:

- **Wednesday, August 25**

- 8am - 4pm - 7th and 8th grade students at Taos Academy for orientation and academics.
- 8:00pm - 4pm - 5th & 6th grade students arrive at camp area for outdoor activities



- **Thursday 8/22**

- 8am - 4pm - 5th and 6th grade students at Taos Academy for orientation and academics.
- 8:00pm - 4pm - 7th & 8th grade students arrive at camp area for outdoor activities

More detailed information to come soon - please send your student with a daily lunch for their orientation week, snacks, a water bottle, and all items on their supply list.

ALL STUDENTS:

Beginning the week of August 26th, students will attend TA on their regularly scheduled days. Middle school students attend campus on Monday and Wednesday; high school students attend Tuesday and Thursday. College Link advisory times will be scheduled around students' UNM schedules during your Orientation Week.



LAST HURRAH!!! September 2nd is Labor Day and the school is closed. This week only, middle school students will attend Wednesday and Friday.

Additional Programming:

Taos Academy offers flexible, engaging learning opportunities and support for students on their off-days and on Fridays. Students and families should take a look at the following offerings and sign up during our New Family Orientation or by contacting the front office:

- Mid School Plus Program will be offered from 8-4 on Tuesdays and Thursdays on the TA campus. Join us for field trips, academic support, SEL and more. Sign up and fees are required. Fees are \$20 per quarter or \$40 per semester.
- Student Success Lab (SSL) will be offered from 8-12 Monday through Thursday, starting August 23rd. This is a time for increased student time, progress and support in their digital coursework.
- Student Success Planning: All students with a GPA lower than 2.0, having failed two or more core academic classes and/or not meeting proficiency in any academic area will be placed on a five-day Student Success Plan and will attend classes throughout the week per TA policy. Meetings will be held with students and families the first two weeks of school to create these customized success plans.
- STEM+Arts Institute classes will begin the week of August 30th. Schedule and courses available TBA. Material fee is \$10 for Middle School students and \$20 for High School students. The materials fee reserves your spot in the class. Signups will be required and on a first come first serve basis.



Special Education Students: Please contact [Jeanette Henshaw](#) to ensure we have a current IEP and most recent Evaluation paperwork for your child. As these materials are received, we will be developing a Transfer IEP and contacting you to set up the meeting. Any questions, concerns or to set up a meeting prior to the Transfer IEP please contact me. Thank you for your support & welcome to Taos Academy! The Special Education team looks forward to working with you and your child! With thanks, Jeanette Henshaw, Patti Kravitz, Jourdan VanCulin, Stephanie Greene, & Sally Blair (your Special Education Team)

GET INVOLVED

Parent Advisory



8/31/21 - All parents, guardians, and/or family members of TA students who are interested in joining our Family Advisory Council, are invited to attend our kickoff meeting on Tuesday, August 31st at 5:30.

If you have any questions feel free to call or email the contacts below:

Amy Lucero - Administrative Secretary: 751-3109 alucero@taosacademy.org

Elizabeth LeBlanc - Director of Teaching And Learning: 751-3109 eleblanc@taosacademy.org

Traci Filiss – Director/Superintendent: 751-3109 tfiliss@taosacademy.org

We look forward to seeing you all!!